

Gray Zone Defense Assessment Act Section-By-Section

Sec. 1 – Short Title; Table of Contents

Sec. 2 – Findings

Identifies gray zone tactics, the role and importance of gray zone competition within great power competition, and the need to integrate instruments of national power to successfully respond to adversary gray zone threats.

Sec. 3 – Sense of Congress

Expresses the sense of Congress that effectively countering gray zone operations is central to great power competition and requires a whole-of government approach. Posits that the State Department should have a leadership role in coordinating U.S. interagency process in response to adversarial gray zone campaigns.

Sec. 4 – Policy Statements

Makes it the policy of the United States to:

- Seek effective responses to gray zone campaigns.
- Continue upholding the rules based international order.
- Call on allies to equitably share the burden of responding to gray zone activity.

Sec. 5 – Evaluation of National Capacities for Conducting Gray Zone Operations

Requires the President to submit a report on the processes and capabilities of the United States to respond to gray zone aggression and develop recommendations for enhancing such processes and capabilities.

Sec. 6 – State Department Capacity to Respond to Gray Zone Aggression

Requires a report by the Secretary of State on the State Department's capacity to contribute to coordinated U.S. response to gray zone threats including:

- An evaluation of suitable elements of the Department to counter gray zone activity.
- An evaluation of the adequacy of the Department's definitions for understanding gray zone competition.
- A list of priority countries facing gray zone threats and a list of activities being used to defend against such threats.